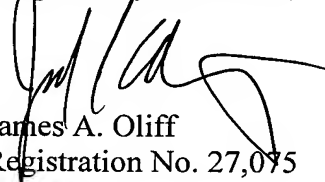


REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claim 3 is amended and claim 17 is added to eliminate multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Joel S. Armstrong
Registration No. 36,430

JAO:JSA/cmm

Attachment: Appendix

Date: February 19, 2002

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
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APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

Claim 17 is added.

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claim:

3. (Amended) A multiple optical path array type probe manufactured by using the method for manufacturing a multiple optical path array type probe as claimed in Claim 1 ~~or~~ 2.

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